000 of construction. Families were given clothing annually. Each week Paniyas received small monetary amounts which enabled them to purchase condiments or other articles in the local market. Betel leaves, areca nuts, and other chewing ingredients were issued weekly. On festival days Paniyas were feasted and given sweetmeats (Ranga 1934: 55-59).

Master-serf relationships still persist in the Nilgiri Wynaad. 618 Not all Badagas have Paniyas working for them, but when such a relationship exists Paniya females and males perform many of the agricul- 000 tural tasks. The women also prepare grain with mortar, pestle, and winnower, and carry water to Badaga houses. Using split bamboos, Paniyas make any type of basket that is required. These people live in houses built somewhat like Badaga houses. However, their houses have smaller dimensions, usually one door, and walls built of woven bamboos frequently covered with daub (Figure 23). The houses are arranged haphazardly in a nucleated community or are dispersed over hills. They are normally not far from Badaga dwellings. Paniyas have their own burial centers and worship centers with shrines.

In addition to receiving food allocated by their masters, Paniyas obtain produce from garden plants grown near their dwellings. They fish with aid of bamboo mats, bamboo fishing scoops, and fish poison (crushed Randia dumetorum Lamk. fruit). Most fish are caught during the harvesting period and in the ensuing dry season. Fishing is then facilitated by the concentration of fish in small water bodies left after the evaporation of moisture from fields, ponds, and streams.

• 222 262 137 An occasional food source for Badagas, Paniyas, and other Nilgiri Wynaad residents are the many bamboo seeds, called bamboo rice, which

6: Noble K-4,5 (1962-1963) 1989
(1800-1963)

AW50 Badaga AW50
Kota AW55
Kurumba AW56
Toda AW60
Madras Tribes AW63
Kasuva

222 262 137 are collected when bamboos (Bambusa arundinacea Willd., Dendrocalamus strictus Nees) periodically produce seeds and die off.

Mullu Kurumbas living in the western Nilgiri Wynaad and nearby Malabar Wynaad frequently hunt with bows and arrows. However, in 1963 I found no proof of their use by the Badagas and Paniyas inhabiting the Nilgiri Wynaad. Again, the evidence indicates that in most of the Nilgiri region hunting nets and spears have in the past been standard hunting implements. Paniyas have gained a reputation for hunting tigers with hunting nets and spears. According to Francis (1908: 30-31), hunting nets from various households were joined into a "V" surrounding a tiger. Directed by Paniyas up in trees, other Paniyas with spears drove the tiger toward the "V's" point while simultaneously closing the opening. The surrounding nets were slowly moved in during a period of several days, and Paniyas lit nightly fires all around the enclosure. Finally, the half dead and harassed tiger was speared to death. Similar hunts are said to still be held upon occasion.

241 Gardens. In multilayer gardens around houses these species were noted: guava, jack, mandarin orange, mango, pagoda, pummelo trees, areca (Areca catechu L.), fishtail (Caryota urens L.) palms, banana fronds, papaya plants, sugarcane, shrubby amaranth (Amaranthus cruentus L., common race), brinjal, castor, chili (Capsicum annuum L.), coffee, okra (Hibiscus esculentus Bend.), tomato, edible root-yielding canna, elephant foot yam (Amorphophalus campanulatus Bl.), tapioca, taro, creeping lablab bean, bitter-gourd, pumpkin, rose, sweet-potato,

241 and yam (compare with Table II).

Flowers and leaves of fishtail palms are used for ornamental purposes. Badagas also grow bananas in single layer gardens. After 245 cutting off stems laden with green bananas, Badagas and Paniyas place them in banana pits with pots in which green wood is burned (Figure 23). The heat and smoke within pits sealed with planks and mud cause bananas to ripen rapidly in two or three days. Leaves from planted amaranth are the only parts eaten. Badagas also eat leaves plucked 222 262 from wild amaranths (Amaranthus gracilis Desf., A. spinosus L.) 137 commonly growing in gardens. Leaves and roots of planted taro are edible. However, only the leaves cut from wild taro (Colocasia antiquorum Schott) growing next to streams and in gardens are eaten. 241 Ceara rubber plants (Manihot glaziovii Muell. Arg.) descended from stock used in experimental rubber production on adjacent plantations are now weeds occasionally left growing in gardens. Brinjal and chili seeds are first sprouted in a small nursery on stilts (Figure 23). Both plants are also planted in kitchen gardens with parallel earthen ridges. At Mundhatti, in 1963, there was a ridged kitchen garden with alternated kidney beans, brinjals, chilies, and maize. Elephant foot yam or taro are occasionally grown on ridges within single layer shaded gardens (Plate XII, F). Tapioca is increasingly being cultivated as a dry field crop planted on hoed ridges, but is not a typical Badaga crop.

243 Dry field agriculture. As upland dry fields are often left fallow, only small acreages are covered with crops at any single time.